

MEDIA RELEASE

**Attention: News Director
For Immediate Release
September 7, 2006**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DAVID L. HUBER
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Western District of Kentucky**

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HENDERSON COUNTY WOMAN CONVICTED OF ASSISTING ESCAPE

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that on September 7, 2006, **KIMBERLY ANN BASHAM**, age 25, of 13384 South Highway 41, Robards, Kentucky, in Henderson County, was **found guilty** by a federal jury in United States District Court, Owensboro, Kentucky, of knowingly assisting in the escape of a person in federal custody after an arrest on a felony charge, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 752(a).

The jury's verdict of guilty was returned following a two-day trial before Judge Joseph H. McKinley Jr., United States District Court.

Basham was indicted on July 6, 2005, for assisting in the escape of Brian Hite on May 20, 2004. Hite escaped while being transported from United States District Court in Owensboro, where he had been arraigned on a federal indictment charging possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, back to the Henderson County Detention Center, where he was being held in custody while awaiting trial on the federal charges. He was captured soon after the escape, and the subsequent investigation revealed that **Basham**, a former guard at the Henderson County Detention Center, had given him a handcuff key which he used to remove his shackles prior to his escape.

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The maximum potential penalties are imprisonment for a term not to exceed five years, a fine of not more than \$250,000, or both, and supervised release for a period not to exceed three years.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress and was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

Judge McKinley has ordered a presentence investigation. Sentencing should be scheduled in approximately eight to ten weeks.

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